69TH CONGRESS } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES { REPORT
1st Session } { No. 650

TO AMEND THE IMMIGRATION ACT OF 1924

MARCH 24, 1926.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mr. DICKSTEIN, from the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 10661]

The Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 10661) to amend the immigration act of 1924, having had the same under consideration, reports it back to the House without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

The bill H. R. 10661 is designed to correct difficulties of a minor but very embarrassing nature which have arisen in the enforcement of the immigration act of 1924. The bill contains two sections, which are explained as follows:

Section 1, amending subdivision (d) of section 4 of the immigration act of 1924, adds to the class of "nonquota immigrants" the wife and unmarried children under 18 years of age of an alien minister or professor who entered the United States prior to July 1, 1924. This will cure an anomalous situation. Under the law as it is now in force nonquota status attaches to these relatives of a minister or professor entering the country at any time after July 1, 1924, whereas such status is denied to the relatives (of the same degree) of a minister or professor who was in the country on that date. The committee believes that this distinction between individuals of the same class should not exist, and the passage of this bill will remove such distinction, do away with any discrimination, and thus alone grant the same rights to such individuals who have been here long before the enactment of the immigration act of July 1, 1924. In other words, if ministers coming here since July 1, 1924, are now entitled to bring in certain dependents without regard to quota restrictions, the same privilege should be extended to ministers who have resided in the country prior to July 1, 1924. The committee is informed that a comparatively few persons will be advantaged if the amendment is made, but the present patent inequity of the law will be corrected. The very proper relief given by this bill is there-

fore necessary to grant equality to these individuals without any discrimination.

Section 2 legalizes the admission of a small group of aliens who arrived between May 26 and July 1, 1924, and were thereafter temporarily admitted and who are still here under such temporary admission. These aliens, approximately eight in number, would have been admissible had they arrived at a port of entry on or after July 1, 1924; or they would have been admissible had they embarked before May 26, 1924, the date of the Supreme Court's decision reversing the Gottlieb and Markarian decisions. By the joint resolution (Public Res. No. 37, 68th Cong.) approved June 5, 1924, the admission of persons in similar status was legalized. But said joint resolution required that such persons must have embarked from the last foreign port on or before May 26, 1924, the date when the Supreme Court decision in the Gottlieb case was rendered. The joint resolution persumed that all aliens would, or should, on May 26, 1924, wherever they were then situated, know of the Gottlieb decision handed down on that date. The small group of aliens benefited by this bill did not and could not know on May 26, 1924, of the decision handed down on that date. In some of these few cases the American consul granted them visas after May 26, 1924, as the consul himself could not have yet learned of the Gottlieb decision rendered on May 26, 1924. All of them embarked a few days after May 26, 1924. The same relief should be extended to those affected by this section. It is a simple act of justice which Congress alone can grant.

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